

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00724 112319Z
ACTION IO-13

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2727
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0724

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UN, US, GW, SHUM
SUBJECT: WILLY BRANDT ON HUMAN RIGHTS, NORTH-SOUTH
DIALOGUE AND THE PLO

SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR YOUNG CALLED ON FORMER FRG CHANCELLOR
WILLY BRANDT MARCH 9 AT THE INVITATION OF GERMAN PERM REP
AMBASSADOR VON WECHMAR. DURING A CONVERSATION LASTING NEARLY
AN HOUR, A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS WERE COVERED, INCLUDING SOUTHERN
AFRICA (REPORTED SEPTTEL), HUMAN RIGHTS, NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE,
AND THE PLO. END SUMMARY.

1. HUMAN RIGHTS, DURING THE COURSE OF AN EXTENDED CONVERSA-
TION ON A NUMBER OF OTHER SUBJECTS MARCH 9, AMBASSADOR YOUNG
INFORMED FORMER CHANCELLOR BRANDT THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD BE
ADDRESSING THE UN COMMUNITY IN NEW YORK THE EVENING OF MARCH 17.
THE GERMANS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE POSSIBLE THEME OF PRESIDENT
CARTER'S SPEECH. THEY SUGGESTED THAT THE PRESIDENT MAY INCLUDE
A DISCUSSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

2. AMBASSADOR YOUNG ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION'S
POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IS VERY STRONG, AS IS OBVIOUS
FROM THE RECORD OF OUR PERFORMANCE IN GENEVA. HE NOTED
THAT THERE HAD BEEN A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF DIPLOMATIC PREPARA-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 00724 112319Z

TION OF THE GROUP OF OUR PRESENT AMPAIGN, THROUGH TALKS
WITH AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN AND OTHER DISCUSSIONS, SO THE
SOVIETS SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN TOTALLY SURPRISED. AMBASSA-
DOR YOUNG SAID HE CONCEIVES OF OUR HUMAN RIGHTS EFFORT AS
A KIND OF SYMBOLIC CAMPAIGN IN WHIC WE ALTERNATELY HIT
HARD ON APPROPRIATE OCCASIONS AND THEN BACK OFF.

3. BRANDT SAID HE WAS GRATIFIED BY THE PRESIDENT'S STURDY POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS. HE SAID HE BELIEVED WE MUST BE CAREFUL IN THESE EFFORTS NOT TO PROMISE MORE THAN WE CAN FULFILL. OUR EFFORTS SHOULD MAKE THE DISSIDENTS IN EASTERN EUROPE AND THE SOVIET UNION KNOW THAT WE CARE ABOUT THEIR PLIGHT AND UPHOLD ON THE PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT WE SHOULD NOT LEAD THEM TO DO THINGS THAT NEITHER THEY NOR WE CAN HANDLE. THIS CONCERN IS PARTICULARLY APPLICABLE TO POLAND WHERE THE EFFECT OF DISSENT IS A MORE SENSITIVE PROBLEM THAN IN MOST OF THE SATELLITES.

4. AMBASSADOR YOUNG SAID HE THOUGHT, BASED ON THE U.S. EXPERIENCE WITH HUMAN RIGHTS, IT WAS BETTER TO GET THE PROBLEM OUT IN THE OPEN WHERE IT CAN BE DEALT WITH GRADUALLY. HE SAID HE THOUGHT THE SOVIETS WOULD HAVE A HUMAN RIGHTS EXPLOSION EVENTUALLY EVEN IF WE DID NOTHING, SIMPLY BECAUSE OF THE WIDENING EXPOSURE OF THE SOVIET PEOPLE TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD AND THEIR RISING ASPIRATIONS.

5. NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE. AT THE END OF THEIR DISCUSSION OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS (SEPTEL), AMBASSADOR YOUNG REMARKED THAT, WITH ALL OF THE TROUBLES AHEAD IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, HE STILL FELT THAT THERE WAS SLOWLY EMERGING ENOUGH OF A GENERAL CONSENSUS THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO WORK OUT SOME SOLUTIONS. HE SAID HE BELIEVES THAT IN THE AREA OF THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE ARE BASIC DIFFICULTIES FOR WHICH THE WORLD HAS NOT DISCOVERED DIRECTIONS OR AGREEMENTS. AMBASSADOR YOUNG WENT ON TO COMMENT THAT THE BEST THING THE U.S. EVER DID

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 00724 112319Z

FOR ITS OWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AFTER WW II WAS TO COMMIT ITSELF TO THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY OF EUROPE. THE SAME MAY BE TRUE IN OUR APPROACH TO THE THIRD WORLD. THERE IS AT PRESENT IN THE U.S. A SHADING OF ISOLATIONISM, OR AT LEAST RELUCTANCE TO MAKE COMMITMENTS TO OVERSEAS PROBLEMS OF THIS KIND; THIS TENDS TO DEFEAT OUR LONGER TERM NATIONAL INTEREST IN THE ECONOMIC HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE THIRD WORLD. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE FRG, WITH ITS HIGHLY FAVORABLE IMAGE FOR DRIVE, PRODUCTIVITY AND COMMITMENT TO A FREE MARKET ECONOMY, CAN BE HELPFUL IN URGING THE U.S. IN THESE DIRECTIONS, BECAUSE ITS VOICE CARRIES SO MUCH WEIGHT IN THE U.S. AND ELSEWHERE.

6. BRANDT SAID HE WOULD BE SPEAKING AT MIT LATER MARCH 9 ON SOME ASPECTS OF THE NORTH-SOUTH PROBLEM. IN WEST GERMANY, THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESENT CABINET ARE NOT INTELLECTUALLY PREPARED FOR THE NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES. THE FRG IS PROBABLY NOT IN A POSITION TO PLAY AS ACTIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE A ROLE ON SUCH ISSUES AS PALESTINE AS MIGHT BE WISHED. IN DEALING

WITH THE THIRD WORLD, THE DEBT AND RAW MATERIALS PROBLEMS ARE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT OF SOLUTION, BUT SOME PROGRESS SEEMS TO BE POSSIBLE IN THE TRADE AREA.

7. THE FORMER CHANCELLOR SAID HIS EFFORTS ARE TURNED TOWARD BRINGING WESTERN EUROPEANS TO A BETTER ATTITUDE TOWARD THESE PROBLEMS. HE HAS BEEN DISCUSSING THE POSSIBILITY OF WORKING AT SOMETHING LIKE THE LOME AGREEMENT, EITHER BY BROADENING IT TO WORLDWIDE APPLICATION OR BY CREATING A NEW INSTITUTION ON THAT PATTERN. SUCH A PLAN WOULD OFFER A PARTIAL ANSWER TO THE RAW MATERIALS PROBLEM, AT LEAST. HE COMMENTED THAT THE PRESENT LOME PARTNERS WOULD NO DOUBT ASK FOR "A LITTLE MORE" IN A NEW OR BROADER ARRANGEMENT. AT ANY RATE, THIS KIND OF CONCEPT IS FOR THE MOMENT MAINLY A TOOL WITH WHICH TO MOVE THE FRG FINANCE MINISTER TO A MORE POSITIVE ATTITUDE ON THESE PROBLEMS.

8. PLO. AMBASSADOR YOUNG INFORMED BRANDT THAT PRESIDENT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 USUN N 00724 112319Z

CARTER WOULD BE SPEAKING TO THE UN COMMUNITY ON THE EVENING OF MARCH 17, WITH A RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL AFTERWARD, AND VON WECHMAR IMMEDIATELY PRESSED SEVERAL QUESTIONS REGARDING WHO WOULD BE INVITED. AMBASSADOR YOUNG SAID HE THOUGHT ONLY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBER STATES WOULD BE INVITED: HE COMMENTED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE USEFUL AT THIS TIME TO INCLUDE OBSERVER DELEGATIONS LIKE SWAPO AND PLO. HE COMMENTED THAT THE RECEPTION MIGHT BE A DIFFERENT MATTER, BUT THAT IS PRIMARILY THE CONCERN OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S OFFICE.

9. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE MISSION WAS CALLED BY A MEMBER OF THE GERMAN PRESS IN BRANDT'S ENTOURAGE, WHO SAID AT LUNCH AFTER MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG BRANDT TOLD THEM THAT THE U. S. IS "PLANNING" TO INCLUDE THE PLO IN THE PRESIDENT'S AFFAIR. MISSION OFFICER SAID THAT WAS NOT OUT PLAN, THOUGH HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE SUBJECT AROSE BRIEFLY IN THE MEETING WITH BRANDT. MISSION ALSO ASKED SYG'S STAFF TO ENSURE THAT THE PLO AND OTHER OBSERVERS WERE NOT INVITED TO ANY PART OF THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT.
YOUNG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Subject: WILLY BRANDT ON HUMAN RIGHTS, NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE AND THE PLO SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR YOUNG CALLED ON FORMER FRG CHA
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, US, GE, UN, (BRANDT, WILLY), (VON WECHMAR)
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